

**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 8, 2021**

Commissioner Robin Gorman called the regular meeting of the Indiana County Commissioners to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman R. Michael Keith, absent  
Commissioner Robin A. Gorman, present  
Commissioner Sherene Hess, present

Also, in attendance were Solicitor Matthew T. Budash and Chief Clerk Robin Maryai.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Gorman led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**APPROVE MINUTES...AUGUST 25, 2021**

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of August 25, 2021.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

There were an Executive Sessions held on:

- August 31, 2021 concerning the proposed County Subdivision and Land Use Development Ordinance
- September 2, 2021 to discuss legal matters and status update concerning the Lewis James Fogle vs. Indiana County et. al case
- September 2, 2021 to discuss legal matters and status update on the Route 22 pedestrian bridge project.

**COVID 19 UPDATE**

Thomas Stutzman reported that Indiana County had 18 new cases per day on average, 54 covid test per day and 3 new deaths. CDC reported Indiana County had a 23.66% increase in cases countywide and 14.29% increase in ICU patients. Indiana County continues to be a high community transmission level based on CDC guidance; however, most of Pennsylvania is as well. Vaccinations are still not being widely sought and Indiana County is at 45% of people vaccinated over the age of 12 years. He is strongly urging those who are not vaccinated to please do so.

**CONTRACT EXTENSION...MOTOROLA / EMA**

At the request of Thomas Stutzman, Emergency Management Agency, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement extension of the current Motorola Maintenance and System Upgrade Agreements (SUA-II) for all current ICORRS Partner Counties. This agreement will continue the current level of service for the Regional Partnership, with all nine counties in the ICORRS partnership agreement. The member counties asked Motorola to provide a proposal to extend the agreement to equal the service

period of the new partner counties (Butler, Mercer and Cambria) to hold the discount in place into future agreements. The ICORRS Maintenance and SUA-II agreement will provide for the continuation of service and repairs on a 24/7 basis until December 31, 2033 and will provide an average cost savings to the county of \$11,918.53 annually. This agreement has a 3% annual increase.

**AGREEMENT...ZELENKOFKSKE AXELROD, LLC (Audit Services for the County’s Financial Statements)**

At the request of Lisa Gregersen, Financial Supervisor, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Zelenkofske Axelrod, LLC to extend audit services for the County’s Financial Statements for years ending December 31, 2021, 2022 and 2023. The annual fees for these services will be as follows:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>INDIANA COUNTY</u>	<u>INDIAN HAVEN</u>
2021	\$61,525	\$11,920
2022	\$62,755	\$12,160
2023	\$64,015	\$12,400

**AGREEMENT...ZELENKOFKSKE AXELROD, LLC (Audit Services for the American Rescue Plan)**

At the request of Lisa Gregersen, Financial Supervisor, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve an agreement with Zelenkofske Axelrod, LLC to provide technical assistance and advice in relation to the policies, procedures and accountability and American Rescue Plan Act Funding program on a periodic basis at the request of the County for its municipalities. Fees for this service will not exceed \$226,000 and will be covered from funds received for this program.

**AGREEMENT...CENTRAL COUNTIES YOUTH CENTER / PROBATION**

At the request of Jim Decker, Probation Office, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a contract with Centre County Youth Secure Juvenile Court Detention Facility for FY 2021-2022. This contract is for use of their detention beds at the rate of \$300.00 per day and is only utilized on an as needed basis.

**2020-2021 PHARE-RTT GRANT AGREEMENT/ PLANNING**

At the request of Christina Coleman, Office of Planning & Development, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to enter into a grant agreement with the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for \$150,000.00 of 2020/2021 PHARE (Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement)-RTT (Realty Transfer Tax) funds. The funds will be utilized to continue the 55+Roof and Heating Systems Replacement Program. The program will assist income eligible homeowners age 55 or older with replacing an inoperable or inefficient heating system and/or a leaking or deteriorated roof. \$25,000.00 in ACT 137 funds will provide match for the program. Approval also allows for Commissioner Keith to sign the Grant Agreement.

**CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS / INDIANA COUNTY “ON BEHALF OF” INDIANA BOROUGH 2016 AND 2017 CDBG / PLANNING**

David Morrow, Office of Planning & Development, on behalf of the Borough of Indiana requested two separate approvals from the Board of Commissioners for CDBG contract modifications for the 2016 and 2017 contract years. The requested modifications are due to the

S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Replacement and Improvements contract activity requiring additional monies to fund the construction activity due to actual costs exceeding the original project estimates. The modifications will provide sufficient funds to undertake the S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Replacement and Improvements Project. All citizen participation requirements have been completed.

A motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve the 2016 CDBG contract modification with the deletion of the S. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Project and re-allocating the \$66,000.00 of funds to the S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Project. The requested modification will increase the allocation of the S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Project from \$34,188.00 to \$100,188.00.

A motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve the 2017 CDBG contract modifications with the deletion of the S. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Project and re-allocating the \$86,500.00 of funds to the S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Project. The requested modification will increase the allocation of the S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street Project from \$46,500.00 to \$133,000.00.

These approvals allow for Commissioner Keith to sign all necessary paperwork that will be submitted to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development for final approval. In addition, for these two modifications Indiana Borough has approved allocating \$166,000.00 of their 2021 CDBG funds to the S. 15<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Project. These contract funds will be available in early 2022.

**AGREEMENT...CYS SOLICITOR – WILLIAM J CARMELLA, ESQUIRE / CYS**

At the request of Terrence Redd, CYS, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve a contract 21-22 with Carmella Law Offices, William J. Carmella, Esquire as Solicitor for Indiana County Children & Youth Services at a rate of \$150.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will represent the agency in dependency hearings, attend meetings for case reviews, prepare for termination proceedings, appeal hearings and agency concerns or issues.

**AGREEMENTS...CYS GUARDIAN AD LITEM / CYS**

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 21-22 with Zubin F. Billimoria, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at the rate of \$100.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will find his own substitute when needed and attends team meetings and visits youth in the placement settings.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 21-22 with Joelyssa Johnson, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at the rate of \$100.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will find his own substitute when needed and attends team meetings and visits youth in the placement settings.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 21-22 with Katrina Kayden, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at the rate of \$100.00 per

hour plus travel time when needed. She will find his own substitute when needed and attends team meetings and visits youth in the placement settings.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and unanimously carried to approve an agreement for FY 21-22 with Allen Fiechuk, Esq. as Guardian ad Litem for dependent children at the rate of \$100.00 per hour plus travel time when needed. He will find his own substitute when needed and attends team meetings and visits youth in the placement settings.

#### **PRIVATE PROVIDER AGREEMENTS /CYS**

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve LifeSpan Family Services of PA, Punxsutawney, PA for FY 21-22 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Hess, seconded by Ms. Gorman and carried unanimously to approve Pathways Adolescent Center, Oil City, PA for FY 21-22 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

At the request of Terrence Redd, Children & Youth Services, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess and carried unanimously to approve Pentz Run youth Services Inc., Dubois, PA for FY 21-22 to provide services to Children & Youth Services and Juvenile Probation on an as needed basis. They provide placement services.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioners are continuing to work on a timeline and communications for the Americas Recover Program funding. The REACH website is now down and will be directed to the County's website. A ceremony for 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> will be held on Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:40 a.m. at Oak Grove, IUP. The Ox Hill Fair will be held at its new location, 1752 Mahoning Rd., Home, PA the week of September 5 -11. The Cookport Fair is September 12 – 18, Northern Appalachian Festival is September 9-11 and Hoodlebug is September 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### **NEXT REGULAR MEETING... SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 AT 10:30 A.M.**

The next regular scheduled Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to come before the Board at this time, a motion was made by Ms. Gorman, seconded by Ms. Hess to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

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Sherene Hess, Secretary

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Robin Gorman, Vice-Chairman